CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (cancelled).

Claim 9 (withdrawn) An isolated and purified peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide.

Claim 10 (withdrawn) The receptor polypeptide of Claim 9, wherein the polypeptide is a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor *gamma* polypeptide.

Claim 11 (withdrawn) The peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide of Claim 9 that comprises the amino acid residue sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.

Claims 12-15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (withdrawn) A process of preparing a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide comprising:

(a) transfecting a cell with a polynucleotide that encodes the polypeptide to produce a transformed host cell; and

(b) maintaining the transformed host cell under biological conditions sufficient for expression of the polypeptide.

Claim 17 (withdrawn) The process of Claim 16 wherein said polynucleotide comprises the nucleotide base sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 18 (withdrawn) An antibody immunoreactive with a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide.

Claim 19 (withdrawn) The antibody of Claim 18, wherein said antibody is a polyclonal or a monoclonal antibody.

Claim 20 (withdrawn) A process of detecting a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide, wherein the process comprises:

(a) immunoreacting the polypeptide with the antibody of Claim 18 to form an antibody-polypeptide conjugate; and

(b) detecting the conjugate.

Claim 21 (withdrawn) A process of detecting a messenger RNA transcript that encodes a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide, wherein the process comprises:

(a) hybridizing the messenger RNA transcript with a polynucleotide sequence that encodes the a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide to form a duplex; and

(b) detecting the duplex.

Claim 22 (withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

Claim 23 (withdrawn) A diagnostic assay kit for detecting the presence of a peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide in a biological sample, said kit comprising a first container containing a first antibody capable of immunoreacting with said peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor polypeptide, wherein said first antibody is present in an amount sufficient to perform at least one assay.

Claim 24 and 25 (cancelled).

Claim 26 (original) A process of screening a substance for its ability to interact with a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide; and

(b) testing the ability of the substance to interact with the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 27 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the substance is an agonist.

Claim 28 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the substance is an antagonist.

Claim 29 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the substance has mixed agonist and antagonist properties.

Claim 30 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the substance affects the transcription regulation activity of the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 31 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is coupled to a solid support.

Claim 32 (original) The process of Claim 31 wherein the solid support is selected from the group consisting of agarose beads, polyacrylamide beads and polyacrylic beads.

Claim 33 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the interaction between the substance and the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is detected by centrifugation, chromatography, electrophoresis or spectroscopy.

Claim 34 (currently amended) The process of Claim 26 wherein the interaction between the substance and the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is detected by the detection of the production of the polypeptide produce encoded by a reporter gene.

Claim 35 (original) The process of Claim 34 wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of β-galactosidase, chloramphenicol acetyl transferase and luciferase.

Claim 36 (original) The process of Claim 26 wherein the substance binds to the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 37 (original) A process of screening a substance for its ability to interact with a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a host cell transformed with a polynucleotide, which upon expression, encodes a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide;

(b) maintaining the transformed host cell under biological conditions sufficient to allow for the expression of human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide; and

(c) testing the ability of the substance to interact with the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 38 (original) The process of Claim 37 wherein the substance is an agonist.

Claim 39 (original) The process of Claim 37 wherein the substance is an antagonist.

Claim 40 (original) The process of Claim 37 wherein the substance has mixed agonist and antagonist properties.

Claim 41 (original) The process of Claim 37 wherein the substance affects the transcription regulation activity of the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 42 (original) The process of Claim 37 wherein the host cell is a prokaryotic or eukaryotic cell.

Claim 43 (original) The process of Claim 37 further comprising the step of isolating the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide from the host cell prior to testing the ability of the substance to interact with the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 44 (original) The process of Claim 43 wherein the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is coupled to a solid support.

Claim 45 (original) The process of Claim 44 wherein the solid support is selected from the group consisting of agarose beads, polyacrylamide beads and polyacrylic beads.

Claim 46 (original) The process of Claim 44 wherein the interaction between the substance and the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is detected by centrifugation, chromatography, electrophoresis or spectroscopy.

Claim 47 (currently amended) The process of Claim 44 wherein the interaction between the substance and the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is detected by the detection of the production of the polypeptide product encoded by a reporter gene.

Claim 48 (original) The process of Claim 44 wherein the reporter gene is selected from the group consisting of β-galacrosidase, chloramphenicol, acetyl transferase and luciferase.

Claim 49 (original) The process of Claim 44 wherein the substance binds to the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 50 (original) A process of screening a substance for its ability to modify the function of the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide; and

(b) testing the ability of the substance to modify the function of the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 51 (original) The process of Claim 50 wherein the substance is an agonist.

Claim 52 (original) The process of Claim 50 wherein the substance is an antagonist.

Claim 53 (original) The process of Claim 50 wherein the substance has mixed agonist and antagonist properties.

Claim 54 (original) The process of Claim 50 wherein the substance modifies the transcription regulation activity of the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide.

Claim 55 (original) The process of Claim 50 wherein the human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide is coupled to a solid support.

Claim 56 (original) The process of Claim 55 wherein the solid support is selected from the group consisting of agarose beads, polyacrylamide beads and polyacrylic beads.

Claim 57 (withdrawn) A process of detecting a messenger RNA transcript from a biological sample which encodes a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) hybridizing a messenger RNA transcript from a biological sample with a polynucleotide sequence to form a duplex, wherein said polynucleotide

sequence, upon expression, encodes for human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide; and

(b) detecting the duplex.

Claim 58 (withdrawn) A process of detecting DNA molecule in a biological sample, which upon expression, encodes a human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide, the process comprising the steps of:

(a) hybridizing a DNA molecule from a biological sample with a polynucleotide sequence to form a duplex, wherein said polynucleotide sequence, upon expression, encodes for human peroxisome proliferator-activated receptor gamma polypeptide; and

(b) detecting the duplex.